

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 03716 081551Z

44

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01

OMB-01 STR-04 CEA-01 FEAE-00 IO-13 SEC-01 ERDA-05

ERDE-00 /114 W

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O 081516Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8516

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 3716

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EINV, ENRG, AG, NL, UK, US

SUBJ: PROPOSED SONATRACH TALKING OF CONCH SHARES IN CAMEL

REF: STATE 155154, STATE 167918 (NOTAL)

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE 167918, E/C COUNSELOR ADVISED GON (BARON SCHWARTZENBERG IN AFRICAN BUREAU) JULY 8 THAT WE WOULD WELCOME GON'S MAKING AN APPROPRIATE APPROACH TO GOA. TEXT OF OUR NOTE WAS PROVIDED ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS.

2. SCHWARTZENBERG STATED THAT GON HAD THUS FAR BEEN RELUCTANT TO DO ANYTHING ON BEHALF OF DUTCH SHELL BECAUSE DUTCH SHELL HAD NOT SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED THAT GON INTERVENE WITH GOA. HE SAID A DUTCH SHELL OFFICIAL HAD RECENTLY CALLED AT FOREIGN MINISTRY TO INFORM GON OF DEVELOPMENTS INCLUDING US DEMARCHE BUT HAD NOT REQUESTED GON ACTION. SCHWARTZENBERG AGREED THAT GON INACTION MIGHT BE INTERPRETED AS LACK OF
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PAGE 02 THE HA 03716 081551Z

OFFICIAL SUPPORT FOR DUTCH SHELL AND ADDED THAT A NUMBER OF

OTHER DUTCH FIRMS IN ALGERIA MAY SOON BE FACING SIMILAR PROBLEMS. AS RESULT OF THESE CONSIDERATIONS, AS WELL AS USG REQUEST, HE SAID GON WOULD NOW SERIOUSLY CONSIDER WHETHER TO MAKE A DEMARCHE SIMILAR TO THAT OF USG AND WOULD KEEP EMBASSY INFORMED. HE AGREED MATTER WAS URGENT AND SAID HE WOULD HOPE TO PROVIDE A REPORT ON GON DECISION BY AFTERNOON OF JULY 9.

3. SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT U.K. EMBASSY OFFICER ON BEHALF OF U.K.'S INDIRECT INTEREST IN SHELL HAD MADE SIMILAR APPROACH EARLIER THIS WEEK TO SCHWARTZENBERG AND WAS THEN INFORMED THAT GON DID NOT PLAN TO TAKE ACTION UNTIL IT HAD LEARNED RESULTS OF U.S. EMBASSY ALGIERS' APPROACH TO GOA. IF GON DOES DECIDE TO MAKE DEMARCHE TO GOA, U.K. EMBASSY BELIEVES U.K. WOULD BE WILLING TO LEND INFORMAL SUPPORT BY TAKING UP ISSUE ORALLY WITH GOA.
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Message Attributes

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